

## Spectra of Near Earth Asteroids

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Over the last few years we have slowly accumulated spectra of a number of near earth asteroids. After processing observations of 10-15 objects, we have noted that several of these NEA's (1995 JX1, Tantalus and 1996 JA1) exhibit reflection spectra with very deep absorption bands in the 0.9 micron region. These bands are considerably deeper than those exhibited by typical S-type asteroids, though they are not as deep as Vesta's absorption band. We discuss the band depth, band position and spectral slope of these objects, comparing them to each other and to the group of "chips off Vesta" reported by Xu and Binzel (Science, 260, pp 186-191 and Icarus, 115 pp 1-35). This research is being supported by NASA grant NAGW 1549 and by a NASA graduate student research grant NGT 51324 to Michael Hicks.

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